

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Washington D.C.

Briefing Document for Administrator Scott Pruitt

**MEETING WITH CANADIAN PREMIER OF SASKATCHEWAN SCOTT MOE**

DATE: June 6, 2018  
LOCATION: Administrator's Office  
MEETING TIME: 11:30 AM  
FROM: Pam Teel, OITA

**I. PURPOSE**

The Honorable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan, has asked to meet with YOU to discuss EPA's deregulatory agenda, especially as it relates to regulation of oil and gas, coal facilities, methane and carbon dioxide emissions. Premier Moe has been in his position since February 2018. YOU met with his predecessor, Brad Wall, in April 2017 and discussed U.S. and Canada regulatory policies and how we can work together on a continental approach to energy and the environment that focuses on technological innovation like carbon capture and sequestration and clean coal initiatives.

Saskatchewan is one of Canada's main energy-producing provinces. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest oil producing jurisdiction in North America, and exports 65% of its oil production to the United States. Saskatchewan is also a very large natural gas and coal producer and exports the uranium responsible for 6% of the electricity in the United States. Additionally, Saskatchewan is home to Boundary Dam 3, the world's first commercial coal fired carbon capture and sequestration power plant. Premier Moe is interested in talking about coal, carbon sequestration, fracking, and/or pipelines and the steps his government is taking to promote their use. On April 25, Premier Moe launched a constitutional challenge to the Canadian federal government's carbon tax.

**II. KEY ASKS OR MESSAGES**

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

**III. PARTICIPANTS**

External Attendees

- Honorable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan
- Jodi Banks, Acting Deputy Minister of Trade and Export Development, Province of Saskatchewan
- James Billington, Director of Communications, Province of Saskatchewan
- Shannon Andrews, Chief of Staff to the Premier
- David Keogan, Executive Assistant to the Premier
- David Wilkins, Partner, Nelson Mullins (former U.S. Ambassador to Canada)
- Justin Meyers, Policy Advisor, Nelson Mullins

EPA Staff

- YOU
- Sarah Greenwalt, Administrator's Office
- Jane Nishida, Office of International and Tribal Affairs

IV. AGENDA: There is no set agenda for this meeting.

V. PRESS: This is a closed meeting with no press.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Talking Points

Attachment 2: Background Information on overall U.S.-Canada cooperation

Attachment 3: Bios for Premier Scott Moe

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

## **Attachment 2**

### **Background Information on Overall U.S.-Canada Cooperation Mechanisms**

- EPA cooperates with Canada through a variety of formal agreements and MOUs on environment and water bodies, including the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty, U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, U.S.-Canada Air Quality Agreement, U.S.-Canada Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan, and U.S.-Canada Cooperation in the Salish Sea.
- EPA also collaborates with Canadian counterpart agencies on multi-lateral agreements, initiatives, meetings and institutions, including the Regulatory Cooperation Council, North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), Global Methane Initiative, and G7 Environmental Ministerial.

#### **U.S.-Canada Air Quality Agreement (AQA):**

- The United States and Canada committed to addressing transboundary air pollution issues in the 1991 Air Quality Agreement (AQA). The AQA established a framework for addressing shared concerns relating to transboundary air pollution, and in the first annex to the agreement, set out objectives for each country to reduce emissions leading to acid rain.
- An additional annex to the Agreement addressed Scientific Cooperation, and in 1997 the Parties signed a "Commitment to Develop a Joint Plan of Action for Addressing Transboundary Air Pollution" to jointly address the shared problems of ground-level ozone and particulate matter (PM).

#### **U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement:**

- The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) was signed in 1972 and amended in 2012 to better identify and manage current and emerging environmental issues affecting the Great Lakes.
- The GLWQA defines Areas of Concern (AOCs) as "geographic areas designated by the Parties where significant impairment of beneficial uses has occurred as a result of human activities at the local level."
- Federal governments in both the U.S. and Canada work with state/provincial agencies, as well as tribes, First Nations and Metis, to restore the 22 U.S. AOCs, 7 Canadian AOCs, and 5 AOCs in the connecting rivers between the Lakes.

#### **Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC):**

On February 4, 2011, the newly created Canada-United States RCC was given the mandate to promote economic growth and job creation and provide benefits to our consumers and businesses through increased regulatory transparency and coordination. Work between the two governments identified a diverse set of initiatives, which include the following:

- Each country maintains its own sovereign regulations – reliance on the other country's system to inform one's own decision making, and closer alignment of existing Federal regulatory systems, consistent with our respective domestic laws, are to be the focus.
- Regulatory outcomes for consumer protection, health, safety, security, and the environment are not to be compromised.

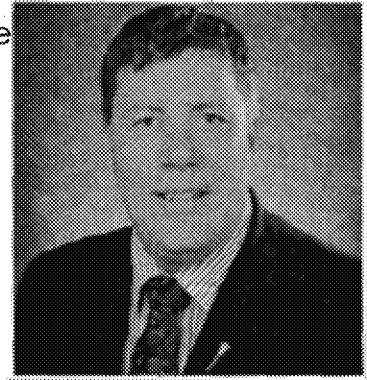
- New regulatory systems are to be designed with the goal of achieving regulatory alignment, to the extent feasible and appropriate. Regulatory alignment is to be sought for all future United States-Canada regulatory system development – with differences existing only where necessary and with the impacts considered.

#### **U.S.- Canada Semi-Annual Bilateral Meetings**

The U.S. and Canada hold semi-annual bilateral meetings to discuss issues related to environmental cooperation. These meeting are chaired by the State Department and Global Affairs Canada and include environmental issues at the state/provincial level, including transboundary mining and energy projects.

**Attachment 3**  
**Biography for the Honorable Scott Moe,**  
**Premier of Saskatchewan**

Scott Moe was first elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in the 2011 provincial election. He was re-elected in 2016. He was then elected Leader of the Saskatchewan Party on January 27, 2018 and sworn in as Premier of Saskatchewan on February 2, 2018.



Premier Moe was born and raised in the constituency on a grain farm between Shellbrook and Parkside. He and his wife Krista live in Shellbrook with their two children. As a family, they enjoy many outdoor activities in what he describes as the irreplaceable landscape of Saskatchewan.

Premier Moe was educated at the University of Saskatchewan where he received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He has been active in the community through his work with the Economic Development Corporation, the Shellbrook and District Health Services Project Inc., and the Shellbrook and District Physician Recruitment Committee. He has also volunteered his time to work with local hockey and softball associations.

Premier Moe served as a member of the legislature's Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies and was deputy chair of the legislature's Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Premier Moe has previously served as Minister of Environment, Minister of Advanced Education, Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation, and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Water Security Agency.